Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) Municipal lights generally burn on all nights during the months of Mithunam and Karkadagam irrespective of the Moon, but not for the whole night.

(2) Yes.

(3) The lights are switched off at about 10 p. m. only

(4) At 9.20 p. m.

Ernakulam Municipal Council—Road Blocking.

186. Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the number of days and within what dates for which the broadway between cannon shed road and Hospital road was blocked for vehicular traffic by cutting it open for constructing a drain across the said road;

(2) were either the cutting or the blocking at the road effected after any written communication to the Municipality for permission to do these;

(3) does maintenance include either of these;

(4) under whose authority were the acts metioned done?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) For about a week in Mithunam. The exact dates are not recorded.

(2) The Chairman's verbal permission was obtained by the Cochin-Kanayannur Overseer.

(3) No. The road was cut open for laying pipes for the disposal of sewage from the General Hospital.

(4) After obtaining permission from the Chairman the Cochin-Kanayannur Overseer authorised the contractor to block the road.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—That the blocking of the road was only for about a week in Mithunam. Can it be denied that it is not more?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—More or less.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—With regard to sub-division (2), is that the practice in such cases; is not permission sought in writing generally?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—In matters which are of an urgent nature such procedure is also adopted.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Am I to understand that in such urgent cases that procedure is also adopted? Is this also verbally reported?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—We got a report about that from the Assistant-Engineer.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—To the effect that the verbal permission was taken. Was that report verified by any communication to the Chairman?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—No.

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